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DDI-66-6504

9 DEC 1966  
FILE *Feelings 1*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: OCS Support to the Support Information Processing System (SIPS)

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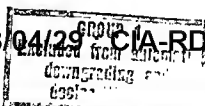
targets in relation to the numbers and kinds of people we would expect the Office of Computer Services to furnish in support of this project. Briggs said that he was interested in getting better acquainted with some of the details of our program and our projected target dates for levying specific requirements upon them for support.

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2. [ ] presented charts showing tasks and skills that we will be requiring and the numbers of people we estimate will be needed to perform each task month by month through fiscal year 1970. Briggs [ ] did not question our task identification nor the numbers of people we estimated will be required for each. The increases in their ceiling which have been authorized and the percentage of those they plan to allocate to this project appear to be just about in balance with our estimates of the numbers needed. The problem will be whether they can get enough of the right kinds of people into the pipeline and on board in the right time frame. They have an additional problem of trying to identify the kinds of people they need to recruit, and this is complicated by the need to maintain or convert the 501 programs as well as continue to respond to current work orders. [ ] raised the question of whether we expected to recommend the hiring or retention of contract personnel to satisfy the requirement for OCS participation in the development of new systems. He was advised that we would not and that we considered it OCS's responsibility to determine how the required computer specialist talent would be obtained. If the requirement can be satisfied by "in-house" talent, so much the better. We agreed that at some point in time it will be necessary to call a halt to work orders against existing systems but we also agreed that it is premature to consider that action now. [ ] said that the Director has observed and expressed some concern over the percentage of OCS effort which is devoted to the support of the DD/S. I said I would hope that some where along the line someone would make the point to Mr. Helms that while we might represent 50% of the work load in the Office of Computer Services, we certainly do not represent anywhere near 50% of the computer work load in the Agency.

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25X1 3. We discussed the need to develop plans for the implementation of the Support Information Processing Systems sequentially and, to the extent possible, in an order of priority that will permit maximum relief for the 501 as early as possible. I made the point, however, that I was not very optimistic about the possibility of getting any significant relief for the 501 very rapidly because I do not expect to find very many applications where there might be a one for one correspondence between systems as they exist in the RCA computer and systems that we will be defining in our new applications. [ ] also questioned the order of our present apparent priorities in pushing forward on the materiel system which seems likely to offer the least relief for the 501. I explained at some length the background of this evolution of events including reference to several critical audit reports, early Logistics efforts to redesign the present systems, the decision twice made to proceed with integrated materiel systems, the relative support and man-power contributed by the Directors of Logistics and Finance to the materiel effort, the impact of requirements for information about certain kinds of contracts as well as inventory management during the past six to eight months, and, most recently, the [ ] I said that while we are well aware of the problems with the 501 systems and the man-power available in the Office of Computer Services to maintain them, we have no intention and see no useful purpose to be served in allowing that to become the only factor in determining priorities for the development and implementation of new systems. Certainly the 501 situation will be a significant factor but it will be only one of the criteria we will apply in measuring our relative priorities. I reminded them that we had held preliminary discussions with [ ] to begin identifying priorities for granting relief to the 501 but we had found in reviewing a list of those applications that some of the things which appeared obvious candidates for immediate conversion from my point of view would present significant problems [ ] because of their activity. We had concluded as a result of these conversations that probably the best way to proceed would be to have [ ] identify those things which he felt would be logical candidates for direct conversion to the 360 for our review and consideration in terms of their relationship to sequential implementation of new systems. We felt that this could be a productive effort over the next few weeks while we are sharpening our thinking about new system concepts which will put us into a better position to judge the relative correspondence between new systems and old.

[ ]  
Chief, Support Services Staff

C/SSS/DDS:RHW:gf(8 Dec 66)

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